

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3615

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUDAPEST 2103

VIENNA PASS DEA REPRESENTATIVE

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJ: FY-77 NARCOTICS CONTROL PLAN - HUNGARY

REF: STATE 139804

1. U.S. HAS NO NARCOTICS CONTROL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN HUNGARY, HOST GOVERNMENT HAVING SHOWN LITTLE INTEREST IN CLOSER COLLABORATION ON DRUG MATTERS. THEREFORE, EMBASSY'S RESPONSE WILL BE LIMITED TO STATEMENT OF PROBLEM.

2. IT IS DIFFICULT FOR US TO ACCURATELY ASSESS EXTENT OF DRUG ABUSE HERE, IT BEING GOH POLICY NOT TO GIVE PUBLICITY TO DRUG PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT THERE IS NOT A SIGNIFICANT DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM IN HUNGARY. OCCASIONAL POLICE RAIDS HAVE UNCOVERED ONLY SMALL AMOUNTS OF MARIJUANA OR IMPORTED DANGEROUS DRUGS. GOH CONTINUES TO VIEW NARCOTICS PROBLEM AS ONE PRIMARILY OF CONCERN TO WESTERN EUROPE AND U.S.

3. HUNGARIANS AWARE THAT IN PAST THEIR COUNTRY HAS BEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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USED AS TRANSIT POINT FOR DRUG SHIPMENTS FROM MIDDLE EAST

TO WESTERN EUROPE. TRANSITING OF DRUGS IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN PRETTY WELL CURBED BY GOH AUTHORITIES WHO, NEVERTHELESS, CONTINUE TO FOCUS THEIR ATTENTION ON INSPECTION OF TRAVELERS ARRIVING FROM MIDDLE EAST OR SOUTHERN EUROPEAN CUNTRIES.

4. HUNGARY IS SUBSTANTIAL EXPORTER OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS, INCLUDING MANY SUBSTANCES WHICH ARE FREQUENTLY ABUSED. NEVERTHELESS, WE HAVE NO INDICATION THAT GOH IS SLACK IN ITS CONTROLS OVER PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THESE SUBSTANCES. HUNGARY IS A SIGNATORY OF THE SINGLE CONVENTION AND CONVENTION ON PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES.

5. WE BELIEVE THAT GOH WOULD BE WILLING TO EXPAND ITS INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN DRUG ENFORCEMENT IF IT COULD BE DEMONSTRATED THAT HUNGARY IS SERIOUSLY INVOLVED EITHER AS TRANSIT POINT OR AS AREA OF PRODUCTION FOR ILLICIT DRUGS. IN ABSENCE OF ANY INDICATION OF EITHER ONE, HOWEVER, GOH WILL CONTINUE TO BE WARY OF ANY ADDITIONAL COOPERATION WITH U.S. OR WEST EUROPEAN NARCOTICS AGENCIES.
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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